

JUNE 2015

Volume 20, 3rd Qtr.

THE CORAL SEA BREEZE

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Welcome Aboard!

Marvin Booher
QM3, N Div.
1967-70

Raymond Buell
ATR2, VAW-116
1958-70

Roy Carlson
SK3, 2-I Div.
1965-67

Edward Carson
BT3, B-I Div.
1981-84

Tim Coble
MMFN, M Div.
1968-71

William Hobak
AZ2, AIMD
1970-73

Gregory Howell
QMS2, OS Div.
1954

Don't Miss YOUR Charleston Annual Reunion!

As you read this issue of the *Sea Breeze* our 2015 annual reunion is less than four months away! Make your Charleston Plaza Hotel reservations for Oct. 8-11 today! Fill out the reunion registration and tour reservations forms today!

The old phrase "if you snooze, you lose" has never been more appropriate. Room nights are going to be a little tight this year, so don't miss

out on getting your room in the "reunion" hotel.



Make your reservations by calling (843) 747-1900. Be sure to mention the

Coral Sea Assoc. for your discounted rate of \$124.85 per night, including sales tax. And that rate will be available a few days prior and after our reunion dates for those who would like to extend their stay.

See page 7 for all of the tour details, including the Patriot's Pont visit with a tour of the USS Yorktown (shown at left). Don't miss this great annual reunion get-together!

President's Corner

Hello Shipmates,
Well here we are, just five months away from our Charleston reunion. Notice of our reunion will be in the American Legion, VFW and Fleet Reserve magazines. If any shipmate has access to other publications, please feel free to have our reunion information included. Key contact can be Bill Johnson, John Ranson or I. As I mentioned in the last

issue, the reunion hotel is smaller than our previous reunion hotels and we only have a block of 400 rooms. If we run out of rooms, there are overflow hotels nearby. So, I urge you to make your reservations early. Also in our last issue, I mentioned that your Association had applied to the U.S. postal service for a nonprofit bulk rate. That was approved, and it will amount to an annual savings of about \$700. With the pending

"retirement" of our store keeper, George Rogers we were looking for someone to take over this very important part of our association. Sid Dockery has agreed and we will be working with Doc to do a seamless transition. In this issue is the reunion and tour registration information. As a side note, while working on the Midway, a visitor asked me some questions about the Midway. I then asked him where he was from and
(Continued on page 5)



TAPS

Paul Brown
AD3, V-2 Div.
1951-53
Middletown, PA

Gerald Chapman
SN, 2nd Div.
1948-51
Tiffen, OH

Frank Habuda
DKC, S-1
1947-48
Plank Owner
Smyrna, GA

Jarvis Henson
MMFN, M Div.
1968-71

David Watkins
MMFA, M Div.
1966-70
Cahokia, IL

William Whitlock
QM3, N Div.
1951-53
Mechanicsburg, PA

Andrew Wright
QMC, N Div.
1965-67
Oakland, CA

37th Annual Coral Sea REUNION Reservation Form

Charleston Plaza Hotel, 4770 Goer Dr., North Charleston, SC 29406
Call (843) 747-1900 for reservations (say "USS Coral Sea" reunion for discount)
Room rate: \$124.85 (includes taxes). The group rate applies from Oct. 6—11, 2015.
Room reservation deadline for this is September 21, 2015

The hotel has a complimentary airport shuttle available, on request. A downtown shuttle runs at scheduled times for a small fare.

Complete this form, include payment and mail to:

Bill Johnson, 322 North Portia St., Nikomoa, FL 34275

Name _____ Guest Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone () _____ - _____ Email _____

For the purpose of printing you name bade, please complete the following:

Name _____ Rate & Rating or Rank _____
Division _____ Served Aboard Coral Sea (month/year):
from _____ to _____

Note: Buffet & Dinner prices include registration costs.

Friday evening dinner buffet, quantity: _____ \$45.00/person

Saturday evening banquet, including desert (please indicate your choices):

NY Strip Steak, quantity: _____ \$50.00/person
Grilled Chicken, quantity: _____ \$45.00/person
Grilled Salmon, quantity: _____ \$45.00/person

TOTAL \$ _____

Make checks payable to USS Coral Sea CVA-43 Association

Vice President's Corner

Hello, Shipmates,
While at the Spring Fling, we had the pleasure to meet Norm Bryant who serviced on board the Coral Sea in 1953, He had his cruise book and we all signed it, it was also his 83 birthday and he did join the Association. He had an article in the local paper of a young man whose name as George Arnold Moore II who had died and they were having a memorial service for him on Saturday morning. What makes this such a good story is that he served on the Coral Sea in the late '80's. All who was at the Fling decided it would be a good idea to attend the ser-

vice and meet the family as shipmates with George. Doc had some Coral Sea hats and we gave one to his mother and I want to tell all that it was a moving experience. This experience just goes to show no matter where or when you will always find a shipmate. I was moved by the way the family took us in and thanked each and every one of us for coming. Our thought and prayers go out to George's family, and now the same goes out to Andy's family
Smooth sailing,

Wayne

Wayne Addkison
Vice President

Treasurer's Corner

Greeting Shipmates,
The cold weather is gone and spring is here. The Midwest Spring Fling in Springfield, IL is in the books. We had a great time and a good turn out with several first-time attendees. Raffles raised \$475.00, which were donated to the scholarship fund. A big "THANK YOU" to all those who donated the items that were raffled. B-Z for the generous contributions!

Our annual reunion in Charleston, SC this October isn't far away, so make your reservations early.

(Continued on page 4)

37th Annual Coral Sea Reunion TOURS Registration Form

Name _____ Phone () _____ - _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email _____

All prices are per person. Tour registration deadline is September 7, 2015.

Thursday, 10/8/15, 9 a.m.—2 p.m.: Historic Charleston Tour

Cost: \$38 # of people: _____ Total Cost: \$ _____

Friday, 10/9/15, 9 a.m.—2 p.m.: Patriots Point Tour with lunch

Cost: \$64 # of people: _____ Total Cost: \$ _____

Three Ways to Complete Your Registration

- Send registration by mail with check or credit card information to:
Charleston Convention & Group Services
PO Box 1118
Charleston, SC 29402
- Send registration by fax with credit card information to (843) 571-4669
- Register by phone with Jennifer Leitzke by calling (800) 553-2055

Please note: No refunds or changes are possible after September 7, 2015.

Secretary's Corner

Greetings Shipmates, I hope that all of you are enjoying the spring time as much as I am. We had a great spring fling in Springfield, IL. last month. Several first time attendees were there. Jon & Janet Lickey put together e great party for us. However, Jon had a fall at home, fractured his left ankle, & had to miss most of the fun. He & Janet met us all for dinner Saturday night. He's in good spirits, but it was a shame that he got hurt. Send him an e-mail or give him a call. He'll appreciate it. He & the great Shipmates from OI Div. do a fine job on the scholarship committee. Assoc. VP Wayne Addkison

served well as auctioneer & raffle boss. He also up-dated all present regarding his efforts to have Sec. Navy Mavis attend the 2015 reunion in Charleston, SC. This is regarding the on-going effort to get a future Navy ship named Coral Sea. Good job Wayne! By the way, all of you are urged to contact your Members of congress and US Senators to get a future US Navy ship named Coral Sea.

The 2016 spring fling will be in Erlanger, KY. at the Holiday Inn-Airport. This is a first-rate facility that all of you will enjoy. I hope that many of you make plans now for 2016. I'll have more about this event in upcoming issues of "Sea Breeze".

Thanks to all Shipmates who have paid your dues to the Assoc. An extra thank you goes out to all the plank owners and 80+ year old Shipmates that have made contributions. Even though you "older & bolder" members do not need to pay dues, your donations are quite welcome. Slowly but surely the roster is getting fixed. I thank all Shipmates who report to me any errors. Also, please continue to report deceased Shipmates to me. I've enjoyed many nice conversations with those of you who call or e-mail. I'm always happy to shoot the breeze and I always enjoy a good sea story or two. Chief Jim Olvey from Ari-

(Continued on page 6)



Welcome Aboard!

Charles Jensen
 RM2, OC Div.
 1961-63

Bobby Jiles
 BT3, B Div.
 1983-86

Daniel Johnson
 SN, 3rd Div.
 1971-73

Fred Lockard
 FN, B Div.
 1964-67

James Mattingly
 AMS2, Various
 1969-70

Raymond Nelson
 YN3, OP-I Div.
 1972-75

Gregory Sherwood
 DP3, S-7 Div.
 1974-77

Gregory Washer
 AN, V-4 Div.
 1974-76

Florida Spring Fling Report and Charleston Reunion Update.

Florida's Annual Spring Fling has come and gone! This year we had a really good turnout, we had shipmates from the Coral Sea and many other ships. A few good men joined us from my monthly group that gets together for some conversation and fellowship. This year we had a member from the ship the Ticonderoga CVA-14 World War II Vintage. He blessed us with many stories about the War; he received the Silver Star for bravery when the kamikazes hit the starboard side of the ship. He did what a man had to do, and saved numerous shipmates. Then we had our guest speaker come, Don Blair, who was the live voice of the Apollo Spaceship recovery missions. He was also the voice of the mutual radio system, and he was the first man to interview Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldridge. Forty million people heard that interview. He also has written several books and had some available at the Spring Fling. It was a nice treat to have someone of this status. After he finished, we had a drawing for door prizes and had a great time by all. Looking forward to next year's Spring Fling! Thank you Bud McKay for all your help in putting the Spring Fling together!

The group of people that is currently working on the Charleston annual reunion deserves a big "shout out" for all of their effort they have given into putting this reunion together, THANK YOU ALL! Charles-

ton is a friendly historic town. As we all know, this is the city where the association held its first reunion. South Carolina is also the place of the Association's original charter. There are only a couple members left that were a part of the very first reunion held in Charleston: Bob Mackey and Sal Avalino (sorry if I missed anybody else!).

Charleston is called the Holy City for all of the churches and synagogues. I know we cannot duplicate Nashville--especially the Grand Ole Opry--but we have planned some exciting events! We will be touring downtown Charleston, and exploring the Yorktown out at Patriots Park. Along with the Laffey, which was the destroyer that the Japanese Kamikazes could not sink, we can visit the Congressional Medal of Honor Museum. Our menu will also be very tasty. You will find that located in this issue.

If you have any questions about our annual reunion, please call me at my home phone, (941) 485-4360, or my cell phone, (941) 223-1783. If I don't answer, try again shortly; after all, I am a little bit hard of hearing. Hope to see you in Charleston!

Your Shipmate,

Bill

Bill Johnson

(Continued from page 2)

Treasurer's Corner...

Thanks to all who have already returned their raffle tickets. And I want to encourage everyone to participate in the raffle. Ticket sales are lagging behind last year. This is an important fund raiser which largely funds the scholarship awards. If you would like to purchase more than the two books of tickets enclosed in the March *Coral Sea Breeze*, just include the extra money with your ticket returns or send another check and I will fill out the additional tickets. Please get

your tickets in by 1 Oct.

Board member/audit committee Chairman Bob Gaston has the Association's financial records and is conducting a scheduled audit. I will post the results when I receive Bob's report.

Hope all is well...see you in Charleston

Clarence

Clarence Neander

Association Treasurer



Salty Humor

The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on the list!

Association Scholarship Update.

Shipmates, our 2015 USS Coral Sea CVA-43 Remembrance Scholarship Program is completed. Of the 10 (ten) packets requested, I received 4 (four) returned applications. That meant that our candidates had a 50% chance of receiving one of our scholarships. This year we were able to give out \$2000 and \$500 scholarships.

The \$2000 scholarship recipient is Katherine Difiglio of St. Charles North HS in St. Charles, Illinois. She is the Daughter of shipmate Joseph Difiglio who served aboard from 1977 - 1981 in IM4 Div... Katherine will be attending Grand Valley State University in Allen Dale, Michigan beginning this fall, majoring in Nursing

Our \$500 scholarship recipient is Bryana Koontz of Dana Hills HS in Dana Point, California. She is the Grand-daughter of CWO4 Richard Damme of Sioux City,

Iowa, who served aboard from 1971-1974 in OI and OW Divs. Bryana will be attending Dominican University of California in San Rafael, California, in the fall, also majoring in Nursing.

The other 2 (two) scholarship contestants were: Jenna Connelly, sponsored by her grandfather Jerry Connelly who served in V2 Div.; Madison Yates, sponsored by her grandfather John F. Dillon who served aboard from 1949- 1952 in V2 Div.

Everyone have a great summer and we'll have the winning essay and a short bio of Katherine in the September "Breeze."

Jon Lickey

Jon

Scholarship Committee Chairman

Chaplain's Corner

Dear Shipmates,

As summer approaches and our thoughts turn to more leisurely activities, I would like to take a moment with you to remember some very important people. Who am I talking about?

I refer to our great shipmates past and present who have given so much to our association. In any organization, it takes those faithful members who are willing to step up and devote time and energy for the greater good. All of us owe a debt of gratitude to each who has done so much to keep the good name and good reputation of our fine ship

alive.

So, to all our officers, trustees, and others, I say "Thank you!" Thanks for giving your time and talents. Thanks for encouraging the rest of us to also give. Thanks for your efforts in making USS CORAL SEA Association what we are today!

My best wishes to each member, too!

Your chaplain,

Michael

Michael

Michael D. Halley
CDR, CHC, USN, Retired
Association Chaplain

(Continued from page 1)

President's Corner...

he said "Charleston". I told him we were having a reunion there and asked him about things to do. He gave me a whole list of suggestions and the two tours that Bill has selected for us were at the top of his list.

On a sad note, we have learned of the passing of original Plank Owner Frank Habuda (DKC, S-I Div.), survived by his wife of 64 years, Lucille; and former board member Andy Wright, QMC.

The Association extends its heartfelt condolences to our shipmates' families.

Until next time,

Mil

Mil Phillips
President



Salty Humor

Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

USS Coral Sea Association Membership Application/Renewal Form

Membership in the USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOCIATION is open to all Navy, Marine Corp and Air Force personnel who served aboard the ship (CV/CVB/CVA-43) for a period of at least 90 days. Also, any person who was assigned to the original commissioning crew (plank owner), even if they spent fewer than 90 days aboard, shall be eligible for membership. **DUES:** Association membership is \$20 per year. Dues for membership are not limited to one year when submitted for renewal or first-time application. Any amount submitted over the annual dues will be automatically earmarked for the Association's Scholarship Fund program.



New Member: I apply for membership for _____ year(s). Enclosed is a check/money order \$ _____
Renewal: Renew my membership for _____ year(s). Enclosed is a check/money order \$ _____

Name _____ **Birth Date** _____
 (Please PRINT First name, middle initial, last name) (mo/day/year)

Address _____ **CITY** _____ **STATE** _____

ZIP+4 _____ **PHONE:** (____) _____ **Email** _____

Spouse's Name _____ **Birthdate** _____ **Anniversary** _____

ON BOARD SHIP AS CREW MEMBER:

From _____ to _____ Division _____ Rank/Rate On Board _____
 (Month/Year) (Month/Year) (Lt/RD/FN/SN/Sgt)
 Military Retirement: No Yes Retired as: _____ USN USMC USCG
 (Rank/Rate) USNR Air Force Army

I do do not want my complete mailing address printed on the Published roster.

Please make check payable to: **USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOC.**
 Mail application to:

John Ranson, Secretary, USS CORAL SEA CVA-43 ASSOC.
52 Woodland Pl.
Ft. Thomas, KY 41075-1605 Email: jrsr3843@fuse.net

Office Use Only

Received: _____
 Check: _____
 Amount: _____
 Expires: _____



Salty Humor

A clear conscience is the sign of a fuzzy memory.

(Continued from page 3)
Secretary's Corner...

zona calls once in a while. We were aboard at the same time in the late '60's so we share a lot of memories from that time. Stay well Chief!
 Lastly I want to make all of you aware of very important legislation affecting Viet Nam "Deep Water" navy personnel. Contact your Members of congress now and urge them to co-sponsor and support HR. 969. the companion senate bill is S.681. Contact your US senators and urge them to co-sponsor and support that bill also. Those of you who are members of the Fleet Reserve assoc. can refer to the article regard-

ing this important legislation on page 9 of the May 2015 issue of the FRA Magazine. Contact me if you need your Congressman's and Senators points of contact. Call their offices or send e-mail messages. Do not send messages by US mail. Due to screening of mail, they may never get the letter. This is very important to those of us who served in the Tonkin Gulf during the Viet Nam war.
 Thanks & Godspeed!

John

John H. Ranson
 CVA-43 Assoc. Secretary

Coral Sea Cadets Update.

The Coral Sea Division of the USNSSC recently participated in the regional (PSW) Flagship competition, finishing third overall. We received the "Chairman's Award" for recruitment and retention and are still "number one" in the Region. I will report further on our unit's activities by end of summer, after recovering from some upcoming surgery. I will secure a substitute to lead our Cadet division during my recovery.
 —Submitted by
 Richard E. Satchell
 Liaison Chief, USNSCC



CHARLESTON Convention and GROUP SERVICES

PO Box 1118 · Charleston · SC · 29402
TOLL FREE: 800-553-2055
PHONE: 843-571-5882 FAX: 843-571-4669
EMAIL: ccgs@DestinationCharlestonSC.com
www.DestinationCharlestonSC.com

USS Coral Sea – Tour Options

Thursday, October 8, 2015 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

HISTORIC CHARLESTON TOUR w/FREE TIME IN THE MARKET

Tour Charleston, SC one of the most beautiful and historic cities in the south. Throughout the tour, your licensed guide will recount over 300 years of Charleston's long and colorful history from 1670 to present day with a blend of knowledge, wit, and humor. Topics discussed will include Charleston's role in Colonial America, the American Revolution, the southern Antebellum Era, the Civil War, and its current day status as one of top travel destinations in World.

Some of the landmarks you will see include **Rainbow Row**, **St. Michael's Church**, **the College of Charleston**, and South Carolina's famed military academy the **Citadel**. Your guide will also point out early period houses in Mazyck-Wraggborough and Harleston Village as well as magnificent public buildings like The Old Exchange and Provost Dungeon and the famous "Four Corners of Law" at the intersection of Meeting and Broad Street. At the **Battery**, we will also stop for a brief walk through the park and some photo opportunities of Charleston's scenic harbor. Your tour will end at the **Old City Market** where you will have time for shopping, browsing, and lunch on your own at one of Charleston's many fine restaurants.



Friday, October 9, 2015 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

PATRIOTS POINT TOUR w/LUNCH IN THE CPO MESS

Tour Patriots Point, one of the world's largest naval and maritime museums. Visit the **USS Yorktown**, the famous fighting lady of World War II; the **Destroyer Laffey**, a participant in the World War II D-Day landings at Normandy; the **Vietnam Era Naval Support Base** with its Sea Cobra and Huey helicopters; and the newly renovated Congressional Medal of Honor museum. While at Patriots Point, **enjoy a traditional Navy lunch in the Chief Petty Officer's Mess** aboard the USS Yorktown



Salty Humor

Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street...with a bald head and beer gut, and still think that they are sexy.

Coral Sea Association Small Stores Product & Price List



Association Logo



Ship's Logo—CVB, CVA, CV

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Price</u>
1001	Reg. Style Cap (Blue or White), CVB/CVA/CV	\$12.00
1002	Mesh Back Cap (Scrambled Eggs) CVB/CVA/CV	\$14.00
1003	Marine Cap (Red) Marine Det., CV	\$14.00
1004	Windbreaker Jacket (Blue), all sizes**	\$42.00
1005	Micro Poly Casual Jacket (Blk, Dk Grn, Maroon, Navy, Red, Royal or Stone) all sizes**	\$46.00
1006	Sweatshirt (Blue or White), all sizes**	\$25.00
1007	T-Shirt (Blue or White), all sizes**	\$17.00
1008	Denim Shirt (SS or LS), all sizes**	\$32.00
1009	Titan Twill Shirt (SS or LS), (Navy, Dutch Blue, French Blue, Khaki, Black, Butter, Crimson, new Olive, Smoke or White), all sizes**	\$32.00
1010	Polo Shirt (Blue or White); all sizes	\$28.00
1011	Pin, CV-43 (Hat/Lapel)	\$ 5.00
1012	3-inch Patch (Older Bolder, CVA-43, Decomm)	\$ 4.00
1013	4.5-inch Patch (Older Bolder, CVA-43)	\$ 6.00
1014	License Plate Frame (Chrome-Plastic), CVA-43	\$12.00
1015	Photo, Coral Sea Straight Deck (8" x 10")	\$ 4.00
1016	Photo, Coral Sea Angle Deck (8" x 10")	\$ 4.00
1018	Coral Sea Coffee Mug	\$ 8.00
1019	Watch Cap, CVB/CVA/CV	\$12.00
1020-1	Optional Embroidery (Name, Div, Year, etc.)	\$.50/ltr.
1021-2	Full Back Logo for Jackets	\$30.00
1023	Coral Sea Pin (CV-43 or CVA-43)	\$ 3.00

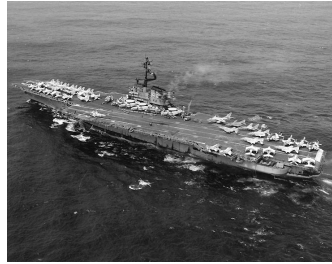
** These are embroidered items; please choose either the Association Logo or Ship's Logo

Please Note: Additional embroidery of your choosing is available on any item. Add \$.50 per additional letter.

Mail: USS Coral Sea Association
Small Stores Account
PO Box 1697
Powder Springs, GA 30127

Fax: 770-222-4833
E-mail: georgerogers@bellsouth.net
For more information: 678-426-8716

Coral Sea Association Small Stores Order Form



Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Item #	Qty.	Description (Color, Logo, Sleeve Length)	Size	Price Ea.	Total Price

Method of Payment

- Check (make payable to USS Coral Sea Assoc.)
- Visa
- MasterCard
- American Express

Merchandise Total \$ _____
 Shipping Charge** \$ _____
 Total Amount \$ _____



Association Logo



Ship's Logo
CVB, CVA, CV

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Name as it Appears on Card _____

Signature _____

Fax: 770-222-4833
 E-mail: georgerogers@bellsouth.net
 Mail: USS Coral Sea Association
 Small Stores Account
 PO Box 1697
 Powder Springs, GA 30127

****Priority Mail S/H Cost**

Up to \$24.99.....\$ 7.00
 \$25—\$50.....\$ 9.00
 \$51—\$75.....\$12.00
 \$76—Up.....\$15.00

Credit card orders will appear on your statement as "ICU Stitching."

The Battle of Midway...Changing the Tide of WWII.

Midway is essentially two main islands slightly more than a thousand miles northwest of Hawaii, and was U. S. territory. It served as a submarine and aircraft base.

Nearly six months after Pearl Harbor, a massive Japanese task force of carriers, battlewagons, cruisers, cargo and troop ships was detected by one of our submarines. This

information was immediately reported to CINCPAC and other naval forces, plus the Midway air base. Our navy was quite a distance from the reported sighting but set course toward the reported site, and Midway aircraft prepared for combat and dispatched some of its craft toward the enemy convoy. Upon visual contact, our land based planes engaged the enemy before the Navy fleets arrived. These planes were causing much damage to the carriers and battleships. Eventually, our US Navy came within range of carrier plane deployment and they joined in the battle.

Together, the land and sea planes continued to create havoc on the Japanese fleet. We were experiencing heavy losses as well. Our torpedo planes were flying only a few feet above the water into a constant hail of shells of all sizes. It took tremendous intestinal fortitude to fly into that ceaseless barrage. Unfortunately, most of our pilots and planes were lost during those torpedo runs against their carriers and battleships. But the battles continued; torpedo runs, strafing from fighter planes and ordinance from our bombers from land and sea.

We witnessed dog fights, planes crashing into

the ocean, torpedo wakes seemingly going in all directions, and the sudden huge explosion when the torpedo hit its target. Carriers on both sides were being deluged with bombs

and torpedo attacks. These seemingly relentless air battles were beginning to reveal an absolute fact: Whoever maintains air superiority will be the victor, period!

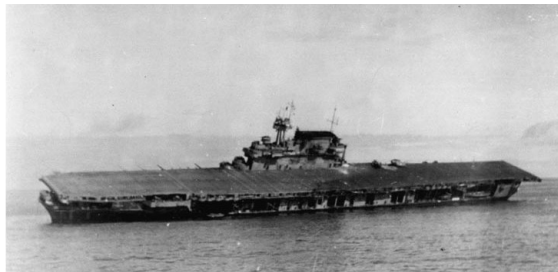
period!

This evolving conclusion should awaken all commanders of past history and a remarkable young

general named Billy Mitchell. He was an "Ace" during World War I and is credited with personally sinking two

German battleships. After World War I he argued continually for the need to establish an air force in the military. He actively disagreed with his superiors on this issue and he was finally discharged from the service, losing his rank in the process. Several years later a few more knowledgeable military men began to understand the magnitude of Billy Mitchell's concern regarding the establishment of an air force. They eventually realized he was 100 percent correct; air superiority far exceeds any surface vessel's capability. They denounced his court martial and restored his rank posthumously.

In World War II it became even more apparent that the military that controls the skies controls the battlefield. (Billy Mitchell was a genius and true American hero. Implementing



Salty Humor

Some people are like Slinkies...not really good for anything, but you can't help smiling when you see one tumble down the stairs.

(Continued on page 12)

USS Coral Sea (CVA-43) Association.

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Larry Pennington—2016
nija6063@gmail.com
Robert Gaston—2017
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Committees

Reunion Committee

Bill Johnson, Chairman—2015 Reunion, Charleston, SC

By-Laws Committee

Chairman:
Members:

John Ranson,
Bob Nerbetski
Bill Eanetta

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Scholarship Committee

Chairman:

Jon Lickey

jjlickey47@yahoo.com
309-688-3939

Audit Committee

Chairman:

Robert Gaston

Nominating Chair:

Bill Johnson

cva43bill@hotmail.com

Parliamentarian:

Bob Mackey

708-891-6771

The Sea Breeze—Official Coral Sea Newsletter

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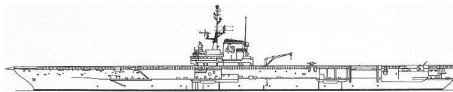
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THE AGELESS WARRIOR

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(Continued from page 10)

Midway...

his air force vision has saved thousands of foot soldiers from being killed.)

By this time our losses were staggering. We lost most of our torpedo planes, bombers and their pilots. Our carriers were the most important targets and the Japanese put forth extra effort to sink all of them. At the same time, we were having excellent success destroying their four carriers as the battle raged on.

Tokyo Rose, Japan's propaganda mouthpiece, was ranting over all the air waves that our entire fleet was destroyed, including the carriers Lexington, Enterprise, Saratoga and Yorktown. Untrue! The facts are that Lexington was burning badly and in danger of sinking at any time. Yorktown remained the 'Fighting Lady' until the battle was over. However, a few days later we were forced to sink her with

a torpedo, ourselves, because she was so badly damaged. But Tokyo Rose did not know this. Saratoga and Enterprise were badly damaged, but survived. Perhaps Tokyo Rose was "tockson bucatody" (most World War II sailors know what that



means).

Just before most of the air action began to diminish, scuttlebutt was that the Japanese naval air supply had been mostly destroyed and they could no longer put enough planes in the air to continue a reasonable chal-

lenge to our forces. It was rumored that enemy planes were unable to refuel or rearm rapidly to support the planes already engaged in combat. This permitted U. S. forces to dominate the skies in the later part of this naval encounter.

This caused great concern to Japanese naval commanders because they were constantly losing more planes as soon as they were located by U.S. planes. There seemed to be mass confusion by the enemy as to what type planes they should arm: Fighters, bombers, refueled or torpedo! Apparently, this indecisiveness led to one of the most important victories for the U.S. in the Pacific campaign.

Many of our heroes--brave, courageous, loyal and committed--are forever resting in King Neptune's vast domain. We will not forget them. Bon Voyage to our heroes!

—submitted by

George Williams, USN, 1941-46